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Press Release

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## **ROMEX redeployment rail operations begin**

By Sgt. Sam Smith, 1st Armored Division Public Affairs Office

**BABADAG Training Area, Romania** – Starting the process of sending 1<sup>st</sup> Armored Division Soldiers home to Germany after training here, more than 60 pieces of equipment were loaded on rail cars August 1.

The first of three planned railhead operations at Ceamurlia de Jos train station here included the loading of shipping containers, vehicles and two Bradley Fighting Vehicles that came directly here from training in Bulgaria via U.S. Air Force C-17.

Although the mission this time was to send the Soldiers home, the load-up was the same as when division equipment arrived for the joint U.S.-Romanian forces exercise ROMEX 05 a few weeks ago in one key way – the safety of those completing the task was paramount.

“You’re all about to go back home, and that’s a good thing,” Maj. Miguel Martinez, Task Force Log(istics) deputy commander, told the Soldiers at the railhead. “I want every one of you to leave without a scratch on your bodies.”

Two more trainloads of vehicles and equipment are expected to be loaded and shipped off to Germany Aug. 2 and 3.

In all, more than 101 vehicles, nine trailer vans and six smaller containers will be shipped back to Germany. An additional six containers belonging to the Texas Army National Guard will continue their rail journey to Constanta, Bulgaria for shipment back to the port at Beaumont, Texas.

“This was a good training event for us to further develop our skills,” said Capt. Jesus Gonzalez, commander of the 386th Movement Control Team, 21st Theater Support Command. “It has been a really good deployment and redeployment.”

